

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number	09/158,728
Filing Date	September 22, 1998
First Named Inventor	STEVEN CRAIG WEIRATHER
Group Art Unit	1772
Examiner Name	Alicia Chevalier
Attorney Docket Number	310048-355

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply 02/13/2002 GTEFFERA 00000078 09158728
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 02 FC:179 740.00 OP
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) 03 FC:103 1710.00 OP
- iv. ☒ Petition for Extension of Time to Respond 04 FC:102 1176.00 OP

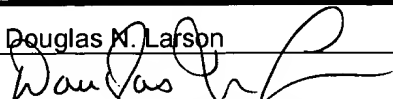
2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

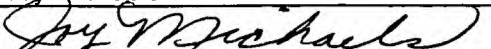
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 16-2230
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16
- b. ☒ Checks in the amounts of \$740.00, \$2,886.00 and \$110.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Douglas M. Larson	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,401
Signature		Date	5 February 2002

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that on January 3, 2002, this document and all listed attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Address" mailing Label Number EL763792937US addressed to: Asst. Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

Name (Print/Type)	Joy Michaels	Date	5 February 2002
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington DC 20231.